FOI-NSC

Ms. Christine Dodson
Staff Secretary
National Security Council
Wash., D.C. 20506

7627 Old Receiver Road (Route 12)
Frederick, Md. 21701
5/13/80

Dear Ms. Dodson,

FOIA/PA appeal re FOI 79-157

This is my appeal from the vague letter I received under date of 5/6/80 from Ms. Brenda S. Reger.

I do not have the slightest idea what she is talking about.

I have made active use of FOIA and PA in historical cases. My requests of the DoD, which she says were referred, go back for years and I've used both Acts. So it simply isn't possible for me to identify anytting from her letter, which does not include date, subject matter or any other identifier.

In order for me to begin to understand the claims to exemption I must know the subject matter. So I would appreciate a copy of the request that was referred to the N.S.C.

The nature of the claims to exemption reminds me of much prior experience. These claims, both of which may be to national security, pertain to serious federal interests and responsibilities. National Security is a serious matter. However, much if not most of my extensive experience with the assertions of these claims is that those who make them have no familiarity with what is within the public domain and the claim is made for the non-secret, what is within the public domain. I mean this comment to apply also to extensive experience with the intelligence sources and methods claim. I quite agree that those not known need protection, but for protection to be claimed there must be something to protect, which means not known. "Reveal" means to disclose what is not known. It does not mean to report what is known.

Sincerely,

cc: Charles W. Hinkle

Harold Weisberg